



# GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT



**massDOT**  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

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GLX Community Working Group  
Monthly Meeting  
July 9, 2019

# Agenda

- **Welcome & Introduction**
- **Safety Moment**
  - Dianna Yates-Souza – GLX-MBTA Program Safety Manager
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- **Public Meeting & Upcoming Events**
  - Terry McCarthy, GLX -- MBTA
- **Extended Construction Update**
  - John West, GLXC
- **Presentation – Lechemere Bus Bridge May 2020**
  - Jeff Santacruce, GLX – MBTA Traffic Engineer



# Safety Topics

## Heat Stress in the Workplace

Heat stress includes a series of conditions where the body is under stress from overheating. Heat-related illnesses include heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat rash, or heat stroke, each with its own symptoms and treatments. Symptoms can range from profuse sweating to dizziness, cessation of sweating, and collapse.



# Outreach

- Ball Square Night Market



# Speaker Name

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## GLX-C Construction Update

John West





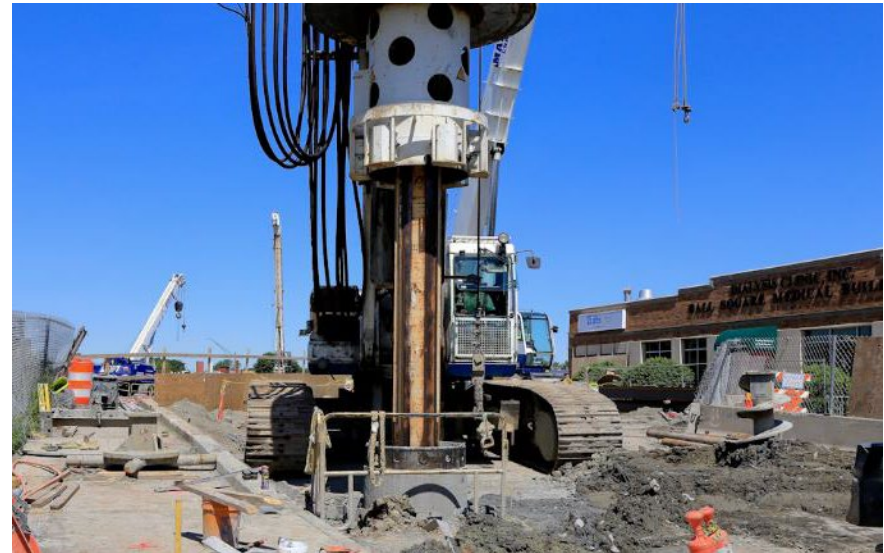
- Heat stress awareness & staying well hydrated a priority for the field team



# Construction Update

## Broadway Bridge

- *Support of Excavation (SOE) work continues. This work stabilizes embankments and is temporary in nature. Once H-piles & wood lagging in place excavation can begin on the new abutments.*
- *East side SOE 90 percent complete (22 shafts to be installed). Granite encountered in several shafts slowing progress.*
- *West side SOE complete (21 shafts installed)*





# Construction Update

## Washington St. Bridge

- *New north and south abutments have been poured*
- *Drainage work continues*





# Construction Update

## Vehicle Maintenance Facility

- *Pile driving for building foundation to start week of July 8*
- *270 piles will be driven in next 5 weeks*



# Construction Update



## Medford St. Bridge

- Somerville HS construction from bridge complete
- GLX work on west abutment to start Aug. 7. Construction will include adding an additional abutment behind the existing west abutment to accommodate one set of Green Line tracks
- Bridge to reopen in Spring 2020



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# Construction Update

## School St. Bridge Closure

- *School St. Bridge to close early 2020*
- *Construction will include adding an additional abutment behind the existing west abutment to accommodate one set of Green Line tracks*





# Construction Update

## School St. Bridge

- *Sewer siphon placement*



# Construction Update

## Near Somerville Department of Public Works

- *Sewer siphon placement at Charles E. Ryan Rd. and Murdock St.*





# Construction Update

## Lechmere Area

- One drilling crew will begin to mobilize later this month near the existing viaduct and Glass Factory Condominiums & AVA/Avalon Apartments and start working their way toward Water St.
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> crew is working their way from BET toward Water St.





# Construction Update

## Boston Engine Terminal (BET) Area

- *Viaduct work continues with frequent night and weekend work*
- *Concrete pour of pier caps for planned weekend of July 13*



# Construction Update

## Brickbottom Area

- *Work along this part of the Fitchburg line includes viaduct construction, utility relocations and wall construction*





# Construction Update

## Noise & Retaining Walls

### Between McGrath Hwy – Walnut St.

- *Noise Wall N-6 awaiting panel installation*





# Project Status

## Noise & Retaining Walls

### Between Lowell – Cedar St.

- *Drainage installation and post installation for Noise Wall N-10, ME-2, ME-2A & N-11 (near park) continues*



# Construction Update

## Noise & Retaining Walls

### Between Cedar St. - Broadway

- *ME-2.1/ Noise Wall N-12 – awaiting panel placement*

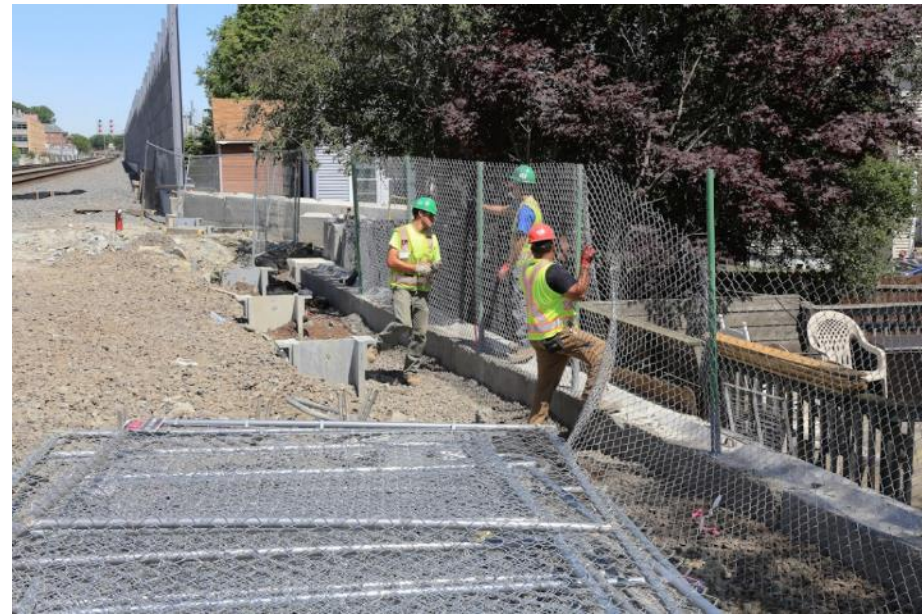




# Construction Update

## Noise & Retaining Walls Between Broadway – Harvard St.

- *Drilling for post placement at ME-2.4/Noise Wall N-14A & N-14B*





# Construction Update

## Noise & Retaining Walls

### Between College Ave. – Winthrop St.

- *Posts placement complete for Noise Wall N-15 (along Burget & Charnwood)*
- *Post placement continues for ME-3A & ME-3B*



# Outreach

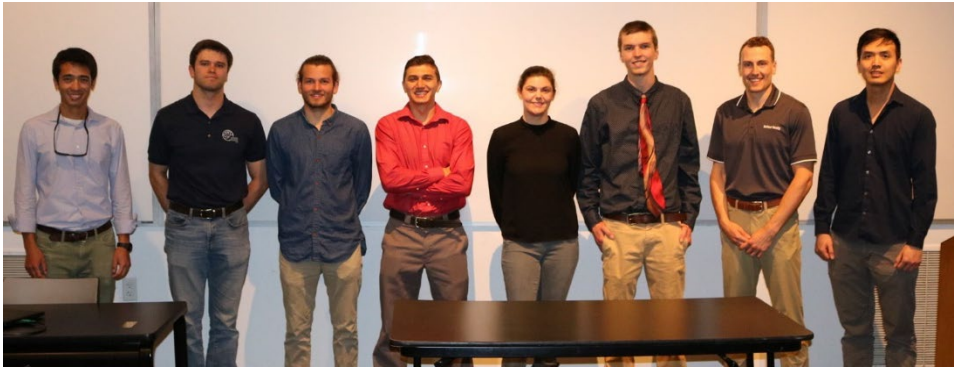
- DBE Networking, Safety & Security Workshop (June 18)





# Outreach

## GLX Project Presentation to Wentworth (June 5)



- GLX-C Engineers Carson Hess & Mat McKinnon gave project overview to 75 civil engineering students*

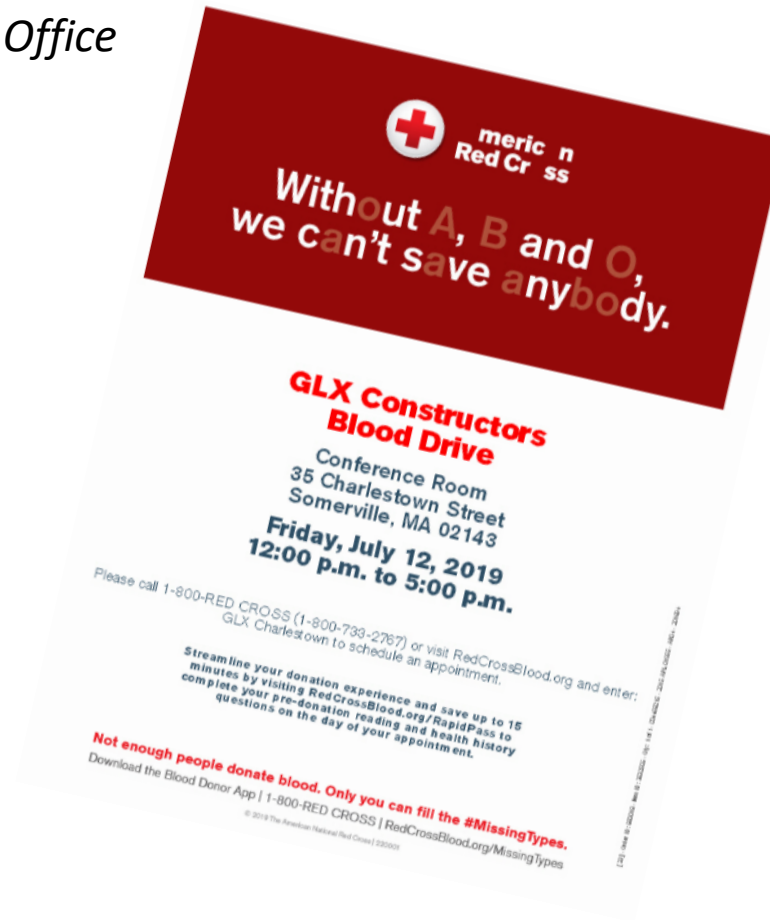




# Outreach

## Community Connection Team – Red Cross Blood Drive

- *Friday, July 12 at 35 Charlestown Office*
- *Friday, July 19 at 200 Inner Belt*



# Community Connection Team



## JP Morgan Corporate Challenge (June 20)

- 365 companies and 9,000 people participated
- 36<sup>th</sup> year for the event
- Benefits the Every Child Fund at Boston Children's Hospital



- I. Lechmere Station and Bus Bridge**
- II. Tentative Project Schedule**
- III. Adjacent work/Schedules**
- IV. Q & A**



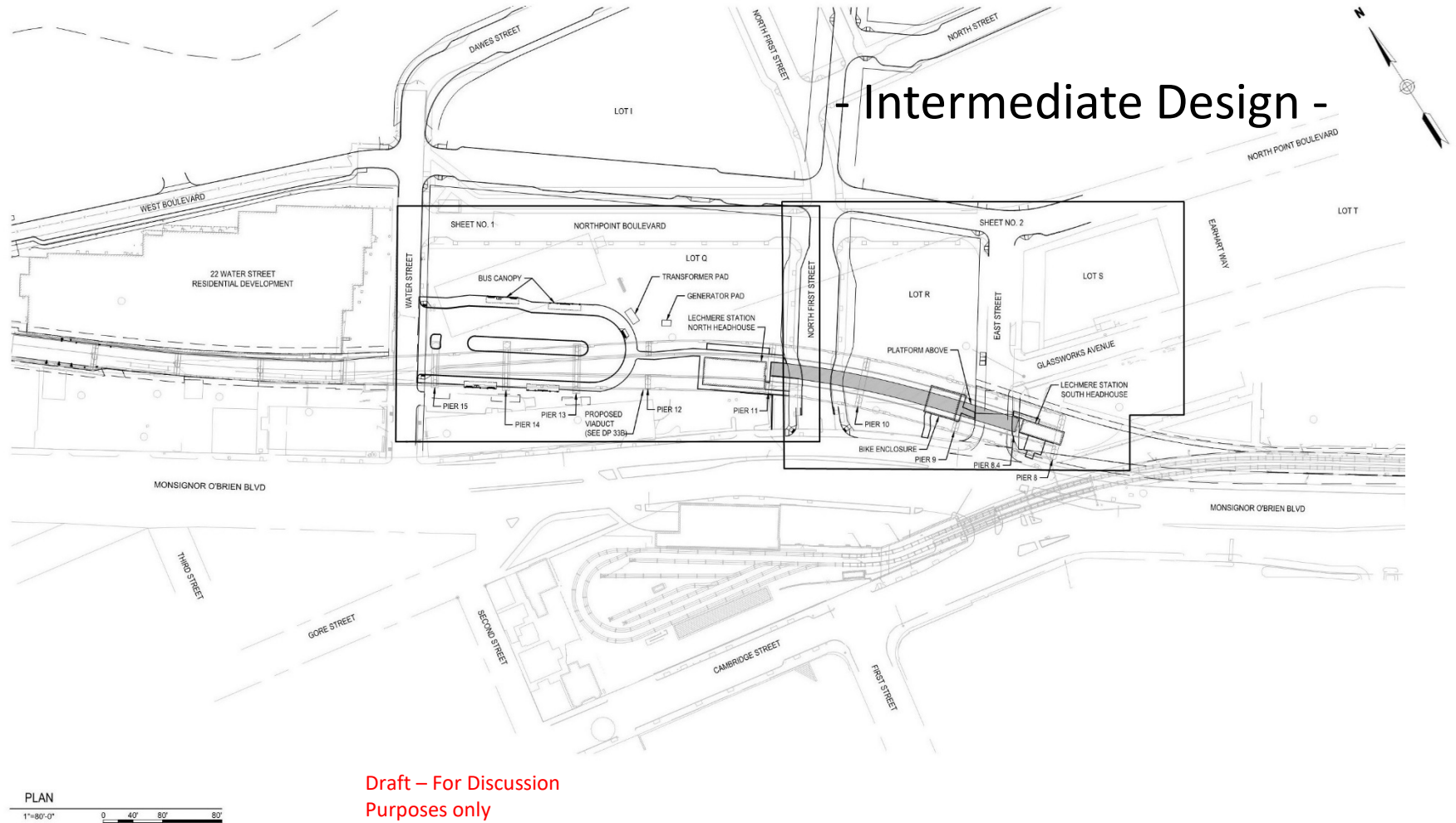
# Tentative Work Schedule

Stakeholder Engagement Mile Markers	2019												2020												2021												
	WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
Broadway																																					
Washington Street																																					
Medford Street																																					
School Street																																					
College Avenue*																																					
Cedar Street																																					
Lowell Street																																					
Green Line Bus Svc Between Lechmere Station & North Station																																					
Existing Lechmere Viaduct																																					

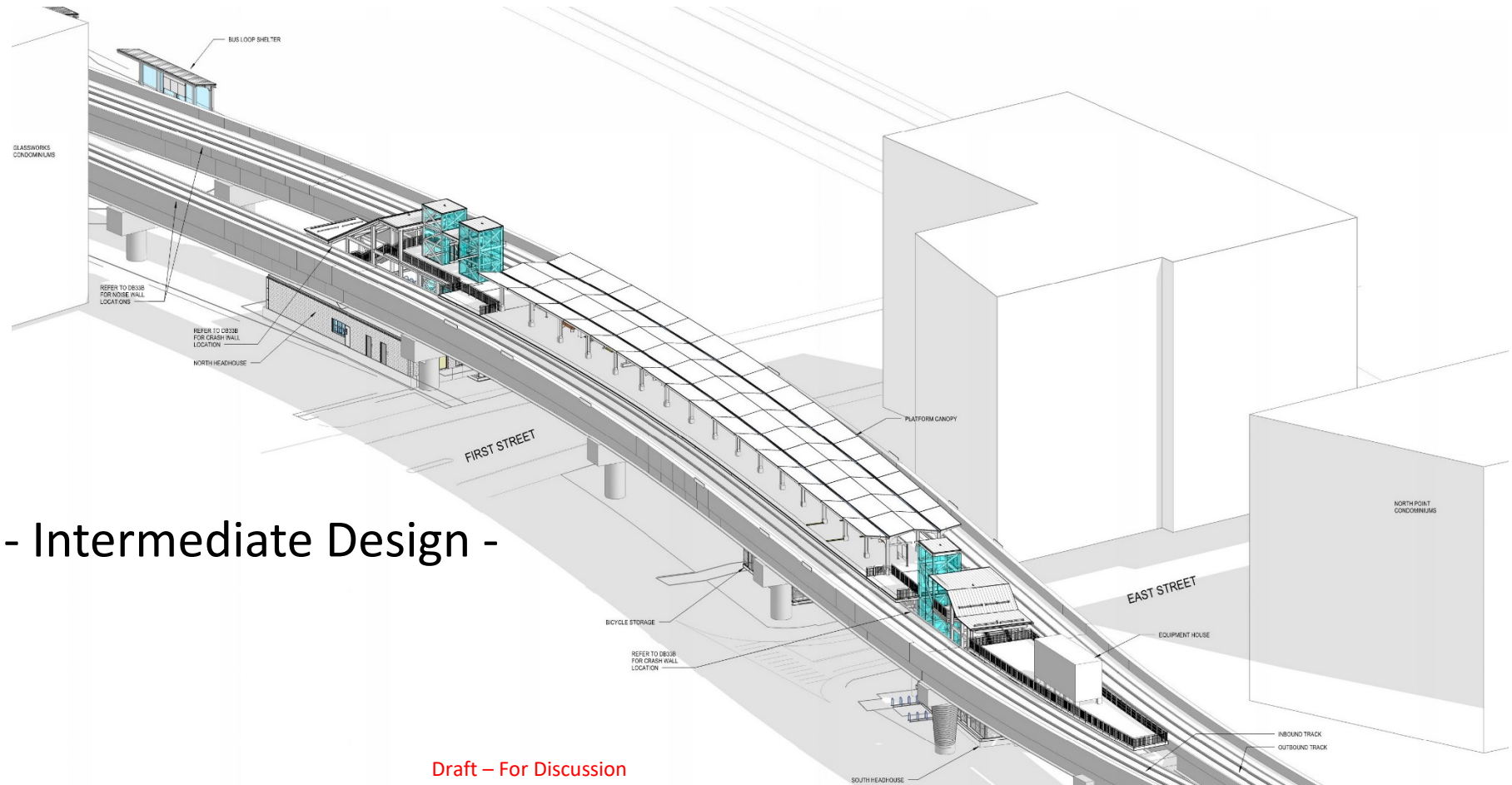
\* College Avenue Bridge traffic may be restricted at times, but will remain open throughout construction.



# Lechmere Station Site Plan



# Lechmere Station Rendering



- Intermediate Design -

Draft – For Discussion  
Purposes only



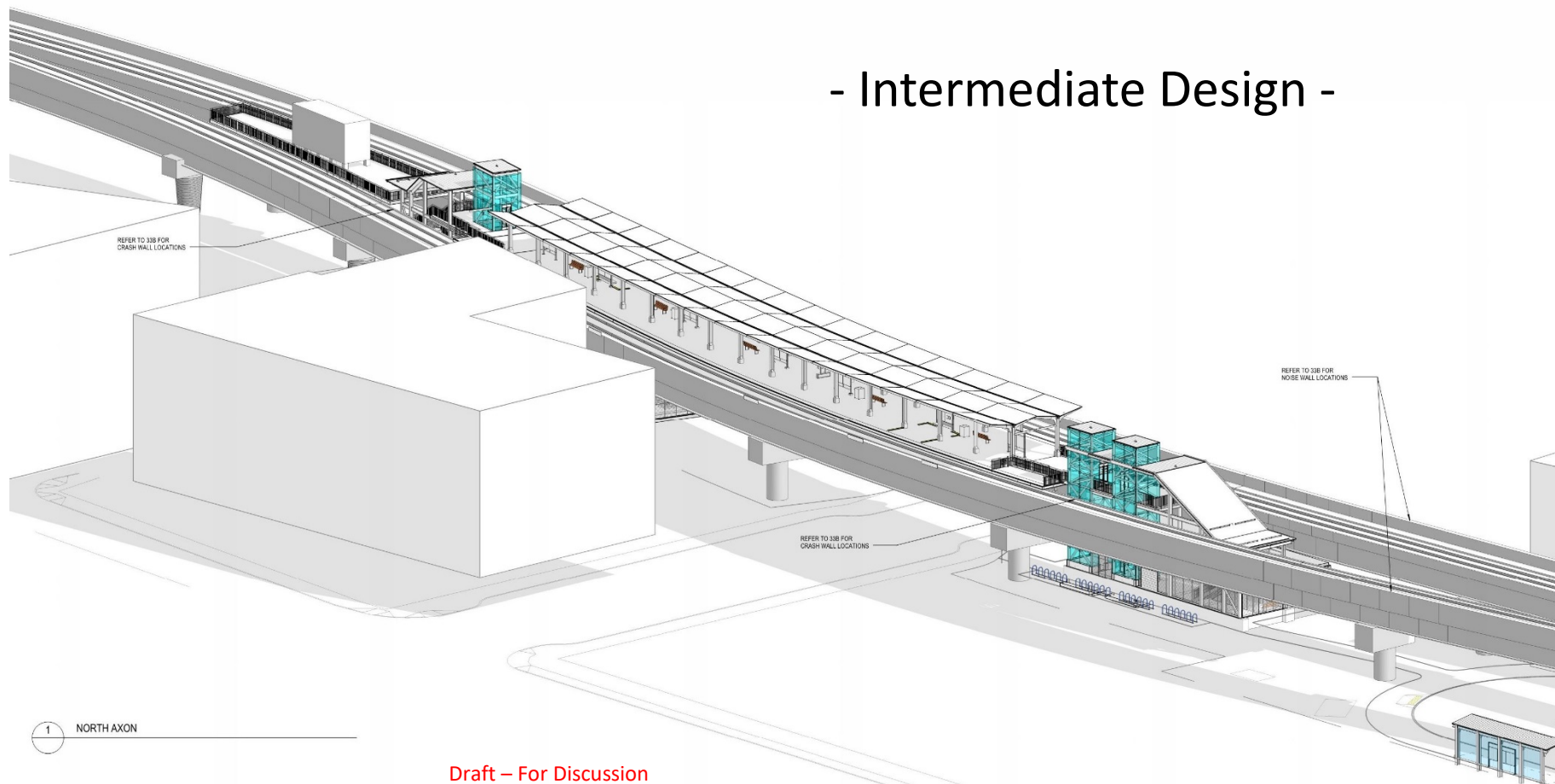
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# Lechmere Station Rendering

- Intermediate Design -



Draft – For Discussion  
Purposes only



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# Temporary Bus Bridge

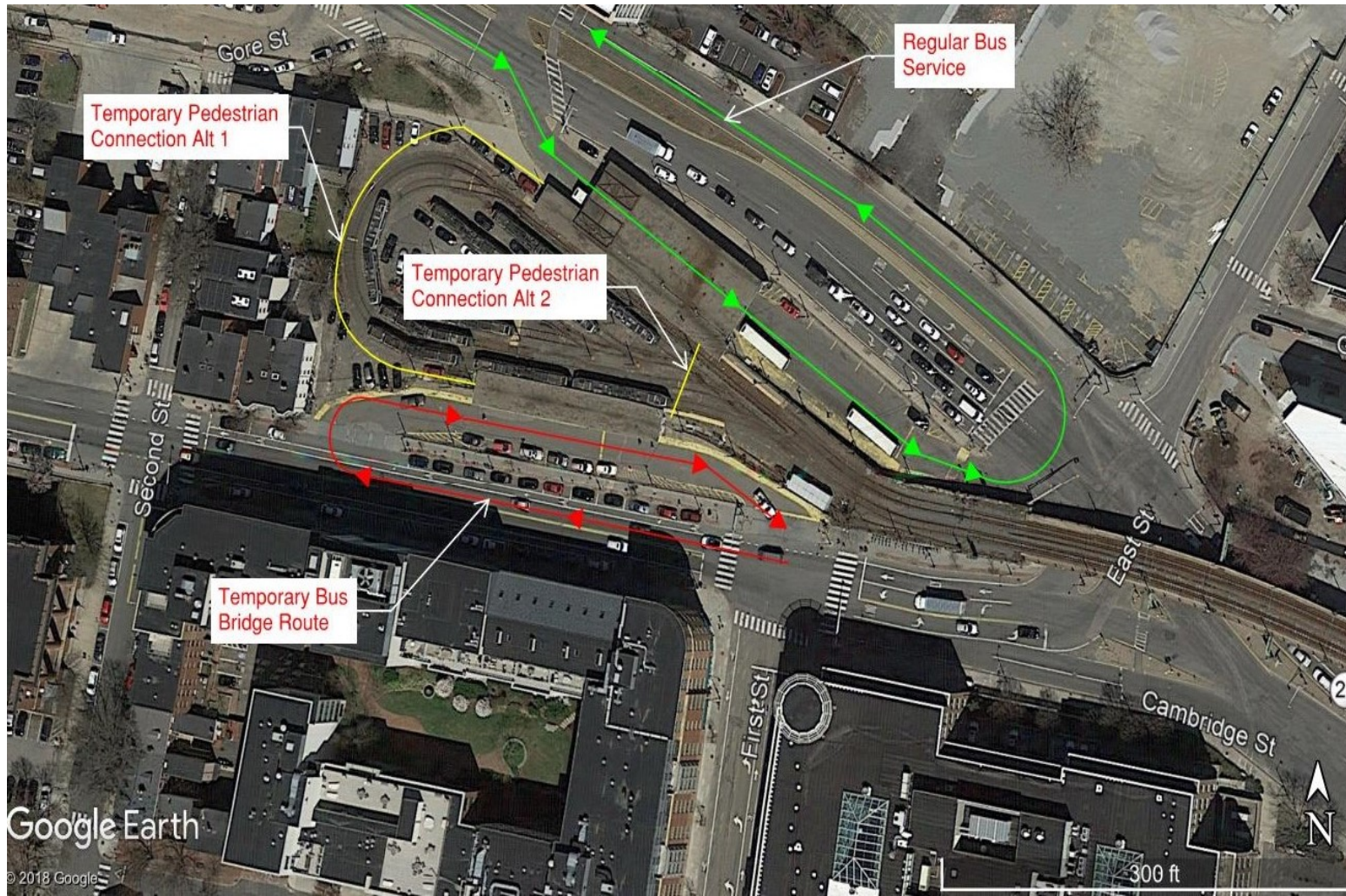
- Required once service to Lechmere Station is shutdown to remove elevated viaduct structure to allow construction of new viaduct
  - Need to provide bus service between Lechmere and North Station with stop at Science Park
  - Approx. weekday daily ridership to Lechmere Station is 5,700\*
  - Approx. weekday daily ridership to Science Park is 860\*
  - Initial estimates indicate 15-20 buses required during the peak periods
  - Total contract time for Bus Bridge is a maximum of 338 days. May be less based on construction progress of new Lechmere Station
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- \* Provided by MBTA - Last updated 1/10/19





# Lechmere Station – Bus Bridge Alternative

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Purposes only



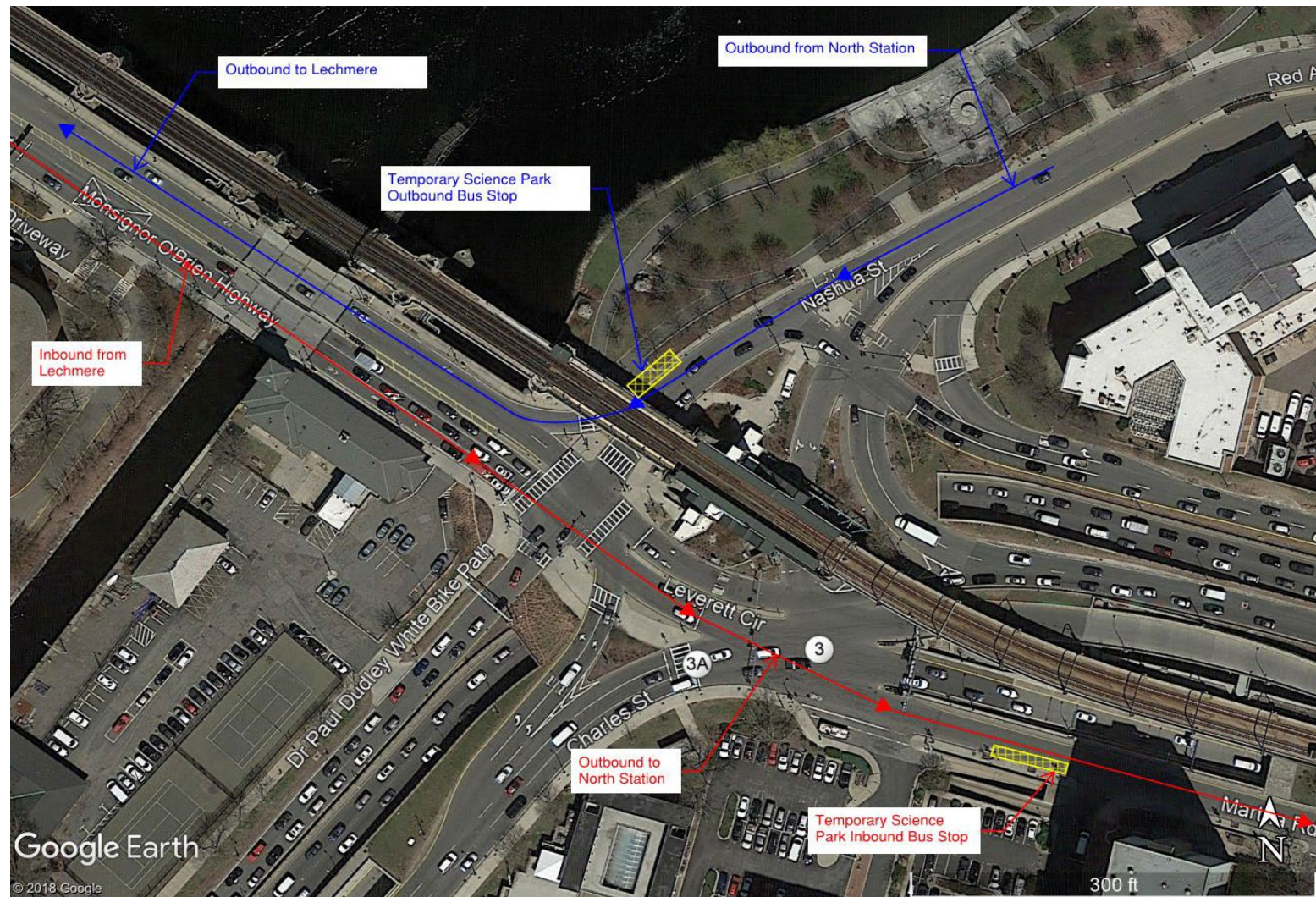
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# Science Park– Bus Bridge Alternative

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Purposes only



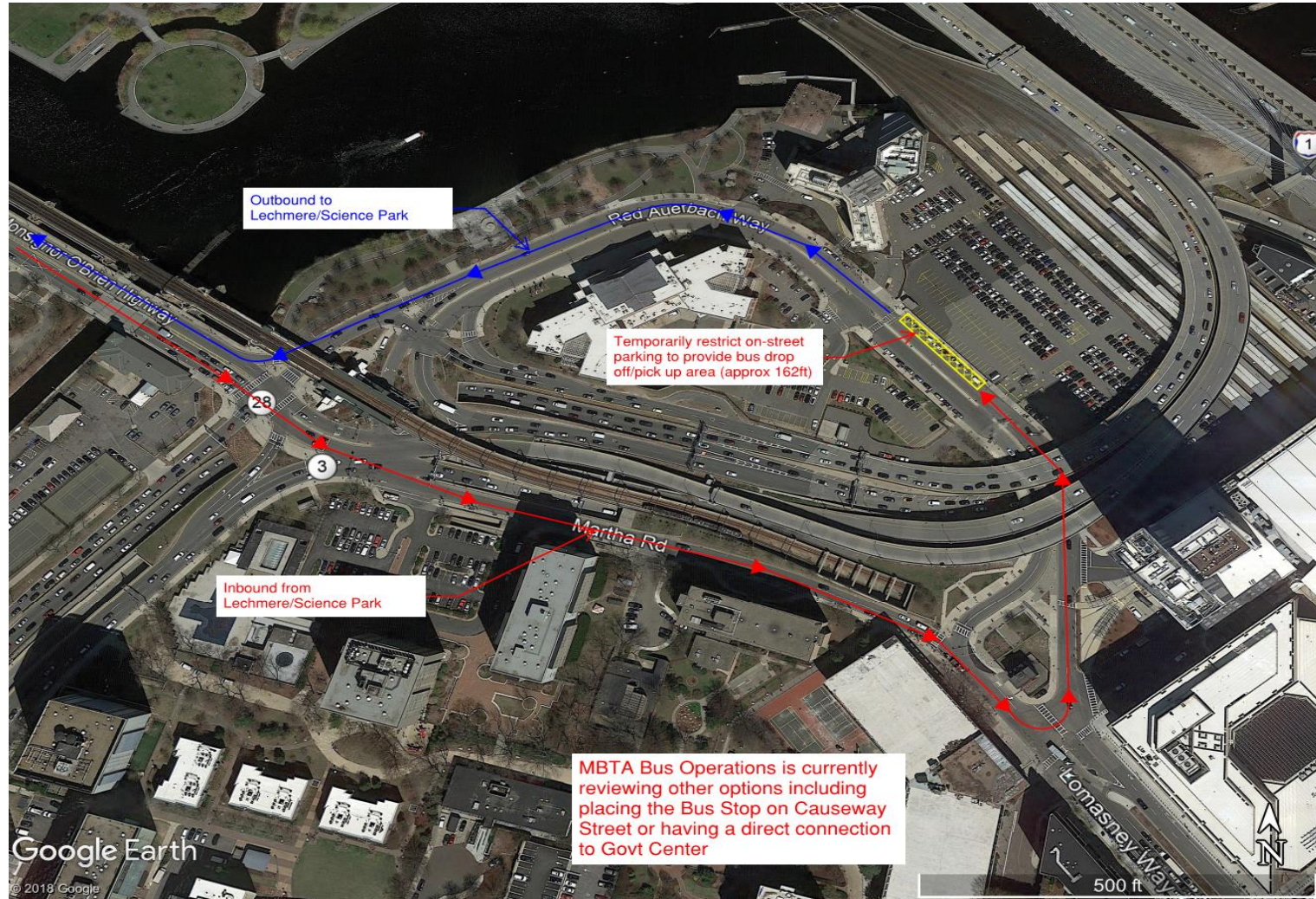
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# North Station – Bus Bridge Alternative

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Purposes only





# Adjacent Project Work

- **MBTA/GLX Projects (May 2020 - May 2021)**
  - Construction of New Lechmere Station on east side of Route 28
  - Construction of new Viaduct on east side of Route 28
  - Construction of New Bus Turn out on Water Street
  - Demolition of existing Lechmere Station
  - Demolition of existing viaduct across McGrath Highway and abutment at Lechmere Station
- **MassDOT Projects**
  - Craigie Bridge Work – Bike Lanes (Summer - Fall 2019)
  - Gilmore Bridge roadway and utility work (Summer 2019)



# Adjacent Project Work

- **DCR Project (Summer – Fall 2019)**
  - Resurfacing of Land Boulevard
- **MBTA Project (Spring 2020 – Spring 2021)**
  - Structural Repairs and Catenary Pole Replacement on viaduct from Science Park Station to Charlestown Avenue (coincides with required track closure for GLX project viaduct work)
- **Private Development Projects (Spring 2019 – Spring 2021)**
  - Cambridge Crossing Site Development on east side of Route 28 from Leighton Street north to McGrath Highway Bridge over tracks
  - Cambridge Crossing Roadway Improvements along Route 28 (McGrath Hwy) from Land Boulevard north to Winter Street



# Questions





**GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT**  
**July 9, 2019 COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP MEETING – SUMMARY MINUTES**

LOCATION OF MEETING: GLX Project Office, 200 Inner Belt Rd, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Somerville, MA 02143

DATE/TIME OF MEETING: July 9, 2019; 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

**ATTENDANCE:**

CWG Members: Elliot Bradshaw (East Somerville), Andrew Reker (For City of Cambridge), Jason Alves (East Cambridge), Jim McGinnis (Union Square), Laurel Ruma (College Ave), Jim Silva (Medford Ball Square)

MassDOT/MBTA: Terry McCarthy – MBTA Deputy Program Manager of Stakeholder Engagement, Jeff Santacruce, Traffic Engineer – Weston & Samson,

GLX Constructors (GLXC): Hannah Brockhaus, Jeff Wagner, John West

GLX Project Team: Randy Henke, Martin Nee

Other Attendees: Rocco Di Rico (Tufts University), Matt Hartman (Sen. Jehlen), Tristan Stull (U/Mass Boston), Derec Persant (FTA-PMOC), Tim Dineen (VNA resident)

**PURPOSE:** The GLX Community Working Group (CWG) was formed to help engage and foster communication with the communities along the GLX corridor by meeting with representative members (both residents and officials) of Cambridge, Somerville, and Medford.

**BACKGROUND:** The Green Line Extension (GLX) Project is an initiative of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), in coordination with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The project intent is to extend existing MBTA Green Line service from Lechmere Station through the northwest corridor communities of Cambridge, Somerville, and Medford. The goals of the project are to increase mobility; encourage public transit usage; improve regional air quality; ensure a more equitable distribution of transit services; and support opportunities for sustainable development.

**PRESENTATION:**

Terry McCarthy – MBTA Deputy Program Manager of Stakeholder Engagement, introduced:

1. Dianna Sousa, GLX – Safety Director, who would provide a safety briefing
2. John West, Director of Engineering – GLXC, who provide a construction update
3. And Jeff Santacruce, Traffic Engineer – Weston & Samson, who would provide a transportation update on the planned MBTA bus diversion anticipated in spring of 2020 as the current Lechmere Station is temporarily put out of service.

Hannah Brockhaus provided an update on GLX's presence at SomerStreets tabling events.

John West proceeded to provide an in-depth overview of construction including progress on:

- The Broadway Bridge substructure
- The Washington Street Bridge abutments and drainage system

- The VMF working including contaminated soil remediation and upcoming pile driving
- The Medford Street Bridge which was closed recently. Work is commencing on the west abutment which will be extended to allow the Green Line to go under.
- School Street Bridge abutment on the West side. The plan is to shut down School Street concurrently with Medford Street Bridge to allow for a widening of the Green Line alignment.
- Magoun Square sewer syphon work near Charles Ryan Road.
- Lechmere continued installation of bridge foundations. Two crews are working on Lechmere Viaduct and Station.
- Fabrication of massive pier cap forms in the vicinity of the Boston Engine Terminal
- Continued noise and retaining wall construction throughout the entire alignment
- Procurement of powder-coated, waffle shaped noise panels

A detailed discussion ensued concerning the visual qualities and treatments of the sound panels. John West committed to providing an actual sample of a similar wall panel to the group at the next meeting.

The issue of how remnant parcels of land between the wall and existing residential property lines would be treated. Terry McCarthy explained this issue has not been decided yet but it has been raised with the MBTA which will render a decision later on in the project.

The schedule for the Granville Ave utility work was discussed. The work is tracking for early fall and there will be full-blown outreach leading up to it.

The design of a handicap access ramp in the case of emergency near Nick's Pizza was raised. It was asked if a gradual ramp could be negotiated rather than a zig-zag path. GLX stated the design for a long gradual ramp has been vetted and is no longer under consideration. The plan today is to provide a zig-zag ramp. GLX committed to sharing design drawings with the group as soon as practicable.

John West explained the project has regular meetings with Tufts University regarding the tie-in of the pedestrian bridge at Boston Ave and College Ave. Members of CWG urged consideration of the most wide open ramp possible at the corner of the two streets.

John West described the upcoming welding of the massive stockpiles of rail to be installed in its permanent location this fall.

A request was made for an update on construction activity at Union Square. John West explained the project has an active soil surcharge underway at the site. Discussion ensued concerning the community desire for an elevator off the Prospect Street Bridge. John West explained the GLX design does not preclude one but there are no plans to include it as part of the project.

Terry McCarthy provided an outreach summary of recent activities including:

- A recent DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) Networking Event hosted by GLXC

- A GLX project presentation to Wentworth University Engineering Students
- And GLX Community Connection Team Blood Drive Events scheduled July 12 and 19
- GLX Community Connection Team participation in the JP Morgan Corporate Challenge to benefit Boston Children's Hospital

Jeff Santacruce followed the discussion by providing an update on the Lechmere Station "Bus Bridge" targeted for spring of 2020. A major bus diversion will carry all passengers currently using the Green Line between North Station and Lechmere Station. The purpose of the diversion is to allow the relocation and construction of the future Lechmere Station across the street from its existing location.

Jeff outlined the tentative work schedule from spring of 2020 to spring of 2021. The approximate weekday daily ridership expected to divert to buses is 5,700 passengers to Lechmere and 860 passengers to Science Park. Approximately 15 to 20 buses will be required in continuous use to accommodate these numbers.

The total contract time of the "Bus Bridge" is a maximum of 338 days. GLX is working closely with MBTA Bus Operations to map out routes, stops, and detailed logistics.

Terry McCarthy emphasized what is being presented is "a" plan, not "the" plan. A great deal of coordination is underway with the MBTA, MassDOT, various abutters and developers, and the cities of Cambridge and Boston.

Adjacent work projects the GLX project is coordinating with include:

**MBTA/GLX Projects (May 2020 -May 2021)**

Construction of New Lechmere Station on east side of Route 28

Construction of new Viaduct on east side of Route 28

Construction of New Bus Turn out on Water Street

Demolition of existing Lechmere Station

Demolition of existing viaduct across McGrath Highway and abutment at Lechmere Station

**MassDOT Projects**

Craigie Bridge Work –Bike Lanes (Summer -Fall 2019)

Gilmore Bridge roadway and utility work (Summer 2019)

# # #

Next meeting September 3, 2019 at GLX Project Office at 200 Inner Belt Rd in Somerville.